

City of Minneapolis

Request for Committee Action

To: Transportation & Public Works
Date: 11/10/2015
From: Public Works Department
Prepared by: Christopher M. Engelmann, P.E., Project Engineer, PW TED
Presented by: Christopher M. Engelmann, P.E., Project Engineer, PW TED
File type: Resolution
Subcategory: Variance

Subject:

3rd Ave S (1st St S to 16th St S) Redesign Project Request for Resolution to Proceed with Formal Variance from Minnesota State Aid.

Description:

Adopting a resolution directing the City Engineer to proceed with a formal request for a variance from Minnesota State Aid (MSA) for the south leg of the Washington Ave S and 3rd Ave S intersection of the 3rd Ave S Reconfiguration Project.

Previous Actions:

None

Ward/Address:

Ward 3

Background/Analysis:

Scope

The proposed project consists of reconfiguring 3rd Ave S between 1st Ave S and 16th Ave S. 3rd St South at this location is both a municipal State Aid Roadway and a Trunk Highway. The project will include select new medians, mill and overlay and sealcoat, landscaping, signing, striping, and related items and work.

The reconfigured 3rd Ave S will adjust the number vehicle lane traffic lanes and will add a bike facility and improve the pedestrian space. The project layout will be brought to Council at a later date.

Formal Request for Variance

The south leg of the intersection of Washington Ave S and 3rd Ave S was identified as a constrained environment as part of developing the preliminary layouts for the reconfiguration project. MSA Rule 8820 requires a cross section of 66 feet to provide two north-bound drive lanes, one dedicated left turn lane, two south-bound drive lanes, and two bike lanes. The existing street conditions provide 59 feet of space. The design team is coordinating to develop a layout that holds the priorities of the City and is acceptable to regulatory bodies. A variance to the regulatory constraints is expected to be a part of the layout development. To submit the formal request for variance to the Minnesota State Aid Operation Rules Chapter 8820, a resolution from Council is required directing the City Engineer to proceed.

Financial Review:

No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.

Attachments:

Project Map

Project Map



**RESOLUTION
OF THE
CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS**

By Reich

Directing the City Engineer to proceed with a variance request form State Aid Rules per Administrative Variance to State Aid Operations rules, Chapter 8820, effective February 4, 2013, to the Minnesota Commissioner of Transportation for the reconfiguration of 3rd Ave S between 1st St S to 16th St S.

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis wishes to reconfigure 3rd Ave S between the limits of 1st St S and 16th St S; and

Whereas, Minnesota Department of Transportation State Aid Rule 8820.9941 (Minimum Design Standards: On-Road Bicycle Facility for Urban; New or Reconstruction Projects) per Administrative Variance to State Aid Operation rules, Chapter 8820, effective February 4, 2013, require *“New or reconstruction projects for urban roadway must meet or exceed the minimum dimensions indicated in the following design chart”*; and

Whereas, the design chart has minimum drive, turning, and bike lane widths indicated for Collectors or Locals with Average Daily Traffic (ADT) equal to or greater than 10,000 vehicles and Arterials; and

Whereas, physical constraints, pedestrian accessibility, traffic management and urban landscaping limit the roadway configuration of 3rd Ave S between Washington Ave S and 3rd St S; and

Whereas, State Aid Rules provide that a political subdivision may request a variance from the Rules;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Minneapolis:

That the City Engineer is hereby directed to submit to the Commissioner of transportation a formal request for variance from MnDOT State Aid Rule 8820.9941 per Administrative Variance to State Aid Operations rules, Chapter 8820, effective February 4, 2013, for Collectors or Locals with ADT equal to or greater than 10,000 vehicles to permit the reconfiguration of 3rd Ave S between Washington Ave S and 3rd St S with all driving lanes, turn lanes, and bike lanes, to be reconfigured at a total width of 59 feet instead of 66 feet as required by Rule 8820.9941.